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# The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

No. 409. NOVEMBER, 1940.

FATHERHOOD OF LIFE. MOTHERHOOD OF LIFE. BROTHERHOOD OF LIFE.
CHILDHOOD OF LIFE.

"Thanks be to God, which giveth us the Victory."—I. Cor. xv., 57.

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## NOTES AND NEWS.

"God is the Life of the Universe" is a definition by Dr. Martineau; and according to New Testament Teaching God is Life, Light, Love. Throughout all Space is the One, a boundless ocean of life, in which all things live and move and have their being. Life is stronger than Death, stronger than the form which it ensouls, stronger than the glamour of the world, "And this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."—I. John v., 4.

* * *

A glance at a book "Picturesque Europe," which came out in the years between the two great Wars, has a section on Germany, in the opening sentences of which is the statement: "Everyone knows that a cardinal point in Germany's military strategy was that the conflict should never touch her own soil; the battlefield must lie well beyond her own frontier." At last, however, Germany knows what it is to have within her own capital and towns the ravages with which she has laid waste other countries, which dared to presume to withstand the invasion of the supreme Savage and Barbarian.

Truly this is a Judgment Day when "God is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat."

* * *

At the time of writing persistent attempts have been made by large German formations to make havoc over Great Britain, but repeatedly they have been driven off. Ulster itself has had a slight experience of enemy attack. (This is before the beginning of October.) Night after night the invasion bases on the European coastline have been bombarded and, so far, the threatened invasion has not yet taken place.

* * *

The following by Elpis, is taken from the *Northern Whig*: "What can explain the violent antagonism shown, for example, in this poem given to the youth of Cologne to learn by heart?

> The day of the Cross is now over,
> The sun-wheel is rising,
> We are finally free of God
> To give the race due honour."

There you have murder of a more deplorable nature than that wrought by the criminals who machine-gun helpless refugees. It is easy and popular to fulminate against the Swastika and the perversion of the cross which it presents. But there is an aspect of the matter which is not so welcome. May it not be that you and I are killing the Church by our thoughtlessness and neglect? Or, perhaps, by something worse? Dr. H. E. Forsdick has a daring sermon on "The Peril of Worshipping Jesus," in which he contends that having failed to get rid of Jesus by crucifying Him, men have found a more effective way by exalting Him to a region remote from human need and human ethics. The Bishop of St. Albans once said that in Russia they are trying to stop religion by repression of public worship. "There is an easier way than that," he declared, "by lying in bed on Sundays or sitting in a cosy arm chair by the fire. A perfectly easy occupation. If you only get sufficfent people to do that it won't be long before religion dies out."

The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church, as such, is not responsible for any opinion or declaration in this Journal, by whomsoever expressed, unless contained in an official document.

* * *

December, 1940, number published on Saturday, November 23rd. Copy sent in before 16th November will be received by Rev. John Barron, Ballywalter, Co. Down.

* * *

PULPIT SUPPLY.—The Rev. J, Shaw Brown, 1 Greenmount Avenue, Manse Road, Bangor.

* * *

A Legal Committee exists, under the auspices of the General Synod, to advise and assist congregations in legal matters. Apply to Clerk of Synod: Rev. J. Dare Davies, Moneyrea, nr. Comber.

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Will our friends who see to the sale of this Magazine, kindly endeavour to get new subscribers.

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*The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian* can be obtained at the Depository, 35 Rosemary Street, Belfast.

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PULPIT SUPPLY.—The Rev. W. Eakin, 103 Greenore Street, Belfast.

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This magazine may be sent from private addresses in Northern Ireland to U.S.A. and Dominions within the British Commonwealth; excepting Eire, which must go from The Depository, 35 Rosemary Street, Belfast, or the Printer, E. Hodgett, Newry.

## SUBSIDY FUND.

Contributions should be addressed to Rev. A. Davison, Dromore, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

## HARVEST FESTIVALS.

October 27th—

Ravara, 3-30. Preacher, Right Rev. J. G. Davies, Comber.

Ballyclare, 12 noon and 6 p.m. Preacher, Rev W. H. Payne.

Antrim, 3-30. Preacher, Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A, B Sc, Belfast.

## GENERAL ALLIANCE OF UNITARIAN AND OTHER LIBERAL CHRISTIAN WOMEN.

Dear Mrs. Andrews,

At the annual meeting in Tremont Temple on Wednesday, May 22nd, I presented such information and greetings as had been received from our friends in other lands and I assure you that the news and the kindly messages touched us deeply.

By vote of the meeting I was instructed to inform you that in these days of world confusion and well-nigh universal suffering and sorrow we are sending you our most earnest good wishes and beg you to believe that our prayers are for you and for the coming of the day when the peace and brotherly love taught us by our Christian Faith will replace the horrors of war that prey upon the world at present.

May God bless and protect you and cause His face to shine upon you and give you the strength to bear courageously whatever trials you may be called upon to meet.

"God's angels still are near to save
And God Himself doth keep the brave."

With deep sympathy and best wishes, I am in all sincerity, faithfully yours,

SUSANA FITZGERALD, Chairman
International Committee.

25 Beacon Street, Boston,
Mass., U.S.A., July 1, 1940.

Many thanks for your fine letter with its splendid spirit.

Can you send me the name of any woman in the Dublin or Cork Churches to whom I could write as they are not, of course, included in your organization?

Liberal Christians, whether Unitarian or Trinitarian, who are in Uls er at the present time, will always find a welcome in Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Churches.

* * *

Lawrence House Hostel, 1 Essex Street, London, W.C.2., is closed until further notice owing to the present situation in London.

### MARRIAGE.

On October 3rd, 1940, at Old Presbpterian Church, Antrim, by the Rev. George Vance Crook, Ian James Laing, to Una Phyllis Thompson.

### DEATH.

RANKIN—October 13th, 1940, at his residence, Rocklands, Kirkcubbin, James R. Rankin, J P, Secretary of the Ballyhemlin Congregation.

## YORK STREET CENTENARY.

"There is no future for the York Street congregation while they remain in the present locality" . . . so read Dr. Agnew from a letter penned by the secretary of a neighbouring Church to which an appeal had been issued for help thirty-six years ago. This was the careful studied opinion of a committee of most able and eminent men and apparently of many others even in later years. One could not but wonder what their opinion might have been had they been able to be present on the morning of Sunday, October 6th. Every seat in the Church and Gallery was filled with seats in the aisles as well. Here and there could be seen members of other congregations, some from far out in the country even Dublin being represented. But the vast majority enthusiastic members of York Street and even then we were reminded that it was war time when many who would have been present were occupied elsewhere. Some indeed had come though they had been on duty all night before. There was not only a congretion however. A few who knew York Street in other days could hardly believe that they were in the same building. Of the new churches built around Belfast in recent years with thousands of pounds subscribed for the purpose none could have looked finer than this one transformed entirely by the labours of its own people by the steady continued work of seventeen years. An entirely new roof above our heads, spotless paint work, the Communion sets gleaming on the walls, burnished copper, polished pitch pine, electrical aids for those hard of hearing, these and many other things caught our eyes but in spite of everything modern an air of dignity over all. Whether those present had come to celebrate a centenary or the completion of the work of the past few years we do not know but certainly one felt that the feeling with which "we love the venerable house" was sung was amply justified.

There was no sermon but the story of York Street as it was told was as fine a sermon as could be preached. Dr. Agnew told of the first mistake in the founding of the Church. It was a small place which could never hold even if it could obtain a large congregation and it was left to be maintained entirely by such few as might become attached to it. Yet for 100 years it had been maintained through times of famine, distress and riot with its members never living in the district and always moving further and further afield. Time after time the congregation had been advised to give up but always a determined few held on till finally there were six years without a minister and the minute book recorded again and again that there were not even sufficient members to form a committee. Dr. Agnew brought the story down to the day on which he had been ordained with the rain dropping through the roof after his application for the pulpit had been held up for almost a year while the determined handful sought for a more experienced man for which as the speaker said none could blame them. Of the latter years and what he and they had done together it would be for some other to tell. The story of York Street was a lesson of what a few could do by sheer loyalty and whatever they might be to-day and whatever they might ever do they owed to men like Joseph Watson and John Chambers but for whom they would not have the splendid church and congregation they had to-day.

Members waited anxiously to hear the figures of the Endowment Fund. Dr. Agnew reminded them that when he had first proposed that they should raise £1,000 just over a year ago without a Bazaar or anything of the kind it had been greeted with the same amusement as when it was proposed to hold their first service in the Ulster Hall He was now proud to tell them that a week before the Centenary the £1,000 had been raised. Over £600 of this had been willingly given by those who attended York Street which with stipend and collections from the same people would mean that they had contributed over £1,100 pounds to their Church that year. Many of their people were young and some were passing through difficult times so that he thought they had done something to be proud of. He hoped that they would go on till they had raised the £1,000

independent of outside contributions. He wished those few friends in the denomination who had helped to know that even now a sum equal to twice the amount given from every source including the amounts subscribed for the new galleries in the church and hall was ready for investment and that if anything did happen to York Street it would revert to the denominational funds. They would however do their best to see that that did not happen and every effort in the next few years must be devoted to creating that endowment the absence of which had been responsible for all the troubles and dangers of the Church in the last hundred years.

At the evening service which would have been held in normal times in the Ulster Hall the Church was again packed. Miss Geraldine Costigan was again the soloist. The social hour was a happy gathering and though no country visitors were invited many were present and were entertained as usual.

On Monday night a congregational meeting was held. Rt. Rev. J. Glynne Davies, our Moderator, brought the greetings of the whole Non-Subscribing Church. Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc., conveyed the good wishes of the Presbytery of Antrim and the First Church. Dr. Richard Hunter, spoke as one of the first lecturers after the reopening of the Church and remarked that it was a very different place now than then. Mr. F. Robinson congratulated the congregation on behalf of the Men's League. Mr. J. R. Mageean told of the help given to many struggling Dramatic Societies, paid a compliment to the Church's own Society. Mr. J. Radcliffe, B.A. thanked the members of York Street for the kindness and inspiration given to him and other students for the ministry. Alderman Midgley paid a high tribute to the help given by the Church to various humanitarian causes. Letters of appreciation and apology for absence were read from the Rt. Hon. J. M. Andrews. Professor Davey, the Chief Rabbi and others, while a specially warm welcome was given to Rev. John Barron, Editor of the Non-Subscribing Magazine. Afterwards Miss Costigan, Mr. Walter Logan and Mr. David Southward entertained the meeting while the visitors were provided with tea.

On Tuesday night a swimming gala was arranged by the swimming club of the Church, and on Wednesday night members joined with friends of the First Church in another Model Parliament. The remainder of the week saw a special whist drive and a social. The usual Guild on Saturday night ended a memorable and happy week. During the course of it another £100 was added to the Endowment Fund. Needless to say the preparations for these activities as well as the carrying of them out placed a considerable strain on the workers who left the Church each night after midnight, some of them to go straight on A.R.P. and other duties. One of the secrets which explains how these things are possible is the happy enthusiastic spirit that seems to pervade in every undertaking. One feels younger and fresher through coming into contact with it and we can see what a boon York Street is to its members in these dark days. Two remarks remain in the memory of the writer. "If this is what they call a quiet celebration owing to the war dear knows what it would have been like in peace time" and "I mind coming here one night and there were only five people." May the years to come show as great progress and may what has been done be a stimulus to us all.—R.B.

## TRUTH MUST PREVAIL.

Hitler is determined to conquer the world for barbarism, to plunge back the world into savagery, with himself as the supreme barbarian, as the supreme savage.

A civilised individual or nation can do no other, than to resist this with all courage and determination. All culture and all dignity of life will disappear, if the power of Hitler be not destroyed from its very roots.

Such is indeed the truth It must be spoken at all risk of misunderstanding and denial. It must be spoken while it remains unheeded. It must be spoken that it may be heard. It must be spoken that it may be heeded. It must and shall prevail, for there are those among us who know that Hitlerism shall be conquered and the world shall be freed from the greatest evil that has menaced it for a thousand years.—"The Theosophist."

## OBITUARY.

### The Rev. Alfred Turner.

It was with great regret, that the necessarily brief notice of Mr. Turner's decease, was read by many of our readers well acquainted with Mr. Turner, and his life-work, and his genial and stimulating presence will be greatly missed from our gatherings. A ministry in Northern Ireland extending over half a century had enabled him to have a fund of information concerning the history and personel of our congregations which was not surpassed. When "The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian" was first launched by the late Sir John Campbell, M.D., Mr. Turner was appointed editor, and a glance back in the early volumes reveals the high efficiency of his work, as well as evidence of hard pioneer work. The "wee paper" had to win its way into the interest and confidence of the denomination, and experience shewed how well it was serving one of its purposes, in those days, for which it was founded, viz: the advocacy of The Sustentation Fund. Sir John Campbell and others realised the necessity for a magazine in connection with our Irish congregations. Ireland is not Great Britain nor America, and these are the countries which had to be relied npon for magazines, excellent and helpful as these might be. We made contact on arriving in Ireland, and found that during Summer months we were to be next-door neighbours. "I want you for the Presbyterian touch," was part of his welcome, and that particular aspect of our church's life has had our special attention, as the magazine itself can show, during the last thirty years. We apologise for a mistake which was made in the first notice, due to relying on a newspaper report. Mr. Turner is survived by his wife, three sons and two daughters. We momentarily had in our mind a grandaughter, who is now almost a grown up young lady. Mr. Turner was ably assisted in his pastoral work, as well as in the editorship by both Mrs. Turner and her sister Miss Getty. Mr. Turner was one who took a very cheerful happy view of life, possessed a keen sense of humour, and the gift of appreciating any good work, however humble, which had on it the stamp of sincerity.—ULLIN.

**Mountpottinger**—The Annual Sale of Work will be held in the Schoolroom on Friday, 1st November. The Sale will be opened at 3 o'clock by Mrs. Cecil Andrews.

## REPORTS.

**All Souls, Belfast**—"Do you know All Soul's Church in Elmwood Avenue? All Soul's is a child of the Reformation and the Rennaissance. It lays claim to the Christian heritage of religious culture and piety of the Past—it is free also to welcome and assimilate the science and philosophy of the Present—and in a divided and distracted world still dreams of a day when all the churches, together with the social and intellectual forces of the modern world, will unite to create the Christian civilisation of the Future."—James Shaw-Brown. Morning Services only.

**Ministers of Antrim and Down**—The 345th meeting was held at the Manse of the Rev. W. Howard Payne, Ballyclare, on Sept. 30th, at 3 p m, the Rev J. McCleery, Raloo, presiding. The Rev. C. J. Montgomery, M.A. of Holywood, gave an address on "The Danger of a too literal interpretation," which made all the more necessary the work of liberal interpretation of the Christian scriptures and teaching, and of showing the scope of the Higher Criticism as against the Lower. A colporteur had recently brought to the speaker's door a book published under the auspices of an exceedingly rigid school of interpretation: "Watchtower Bible and Tract Society." The book was divided into Sections showing the control in Christendom of Three Elements, viz. I. Religion, II. Politics, III. Commercial Traffickers, all existing by and holding one another up.

As argument, Jeremiah XXIII, 10-12 is quoted: Because of false swearing the land mourneth, the pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up, and their course is evil, and their force is not right. For both prophet and priest are profane: yea in my house have I found their wickedness, saith the Lord. Wherefore their way shall be unto them as slippery ways in the darkness; they shall be driven on, and fall therein: for I will bring evil upon them, even the year of their visitation, saith the Lord." "The clergy have sown the seed of Satan." The implication being that any other interpretation of the Scriptures than that of crude literalism was the sowing of such seed. The book was full of passages of prophecies already fulfilled in the Great War,—chapter and verse given for every event and exact dates, and since 1919, the Devil's agents have been busily at work, but enemy forces have been restrained by the Lord, but not full removed afar off; but at

Armageddon the enemy will be completely removed. Ezek 39, 2-5. Joel II, 22, "Beasts of the field, etc. equal mechanical aids for spreading this message: Radio, Motor-car, phonographs, printing machines, wireless, etc; all these wonderful interpretations produced out of these passages like rabbits out of a conjurer's hat. In the N. T. the baleful effects on people's minds and lives produced by such interpretation, in e.g Matt XXV, 46. "And these shall go away into eternal punishment; but the righteous into eternal life."

In the discussion which followed the address, the Rev. R. W. Wilde drew attention to the fact that in recent discoveries in Egypt, in the papyri, on which writings were made in the type of Greek prevailing there, the apprentices' indentures contained the clause, that "the apprentices must serve for eternity," really meaning "an adequate time," when elsewhere the term "eternal" was used in Greek, as say in Palestine, it only meant "adequate,' so that a punishment, long or short, if it were adequate, would be "eternal punishment."

The party thoroughly enjoyed itself in the beautiful Manse and garden of Ballyclare, where Mr. Howard Payne is so happily settled. The next meeting is at 150 King's Road, Knock, on Monday, Nov. 4th. Buses from City Hall, or Robbs, High Street, to Cheery Valley or Gilnahirk.

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**Ballyhemlin**—Harvest Thanksgiving on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 6th, was very successful. Though rain threatened, the church was filled to overflowing, forms having to be placed along the aisles. The preacher was the Rev. John Barron. Selections were given by the Belgravia Quartette, whose presence at Ballyhemlin is always a great attraction. Miss McMaster presided at the organ. The church was very beautifully decorated in an original style. The collection amounted to £11 13s 9½d.

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**Ballyclare**—A social was held in the School Room on Wednesday evening, Sept. 18th, the occasion being a presentation to Mrs. Moore, the popular organist of the church. The attendance was good, practically every family being well represented. The proceedings opened with a competition which was joined in by all ages and very much enjoyed. Following the ever welcome cup of tea, with its accompanying good things kindly provided by the ladies, the major event of the evening took place. Handing Mrs. Moore a substantial cheque, Miss Hogarth delighted the audience with a neat little speech, full of her usual good humour, and surprised some by stating that Mrs. Moore had been organist of the church for almost 25 years. As a member of the choir during all that time, she testified to the good relations that had always existed between organist and choir, and said that Mrs Moore had always been willing to assist with every project that was for the benefit of the church or school.

The Rev. W. Howard Payne also paid tribute to Mrs. Moore's musical ability, and said he hoped she would be organist for a long time to come.

The programme consisted of community singing and items by several members and friends.

A very enjoyable evening came to a close with the singing of the National Anthem and Auld Lang Syne.

The members of the local branch of the Women's League have granted the use of Victoria Hall as a morning canteen for the soldiers stationed in the district.

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**Ballee**—Preaching at the Harvest Thanksgiving in Ballee Non-Subscribing Church, the Rev. William Holden, of Clough, took as his text in the morning the words, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." The church was suitably adorned with the fruits of garden, field, and orchard. Miss E. Pratt, of Downpatrick, officiated at the organ at the evening service.

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**Downpatrick**—Good attendances marked the Harvest Thangsgiving in Downpatrick Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church on Sunday. The church was suitably adorned with flowers, corn and foliage, reflecting the glory of a bounteous harvest and an exceptional season for the ingathering. The Rev. Fredrick Munford, of Belfast, conducted the services. Solos and duets were beautifully given by Miss Gertrude Somers and Mr. T. Campbell, especially the duet 'Consecration,' the voices blending thrillingly. The choir was under the capable leadership of Miss Marie Henry, L.L.C.M. The congregation are gratefully indebted to all those members who sent in gifts of fruit and flowers, especially to Mrs. Robb, Mrs. S. Perceval-Maxwell, and Dr. Lothian.

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**Killinchy**—The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church was beautifully decorated with

choice flowers, fruit, grain, and vegetables on Sunday Oct. 6th, when the annual Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held. The emblems of harvest were arrranged in a manner which reflected great credit to the artistic skill of those who made themselves responsible for this part of the work. The Services morning and afternoon were well attended. The Rev. A. M. Bell conducted the morning service, while in the afternoon the special preacher was the Rev. Henry Hall, of Downpatrick, whose eloquent address was greatly enjoyed. The choir, under the able leadership of Miss Russell, the organist, rendered most acceptably the anthem, "The Valleys are covered with Corn." Mrs. Murphy (Comber), who possesses a pleasing soprano voice, displayed fine artistry in her singing of the solos, "Come unto Him," from Handel's Messiah, and "Prayer Perfect." The collections were in aid of Church funds.

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**Clough**—Despite inclement weather conditions, there were very good attendances at the two services on Sept 22nd, when we held the Harvest Thanksgiving earlier this year on account of the black-out. The new minister, the Rev. William Holden, preached at both services. Once again, at the evening service, we had the pleasure of hearing the lovely singing of Mrs. Murphy, of Comber. The church had been tastefully decorated for the occasion by ladies of the congregation.

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**Holywood.** — Our congregation in Holywood is celebrating the 325th anniversary of the foundation of the Church on Sunday, November 3rd. In place of the usual evening service there will be a special service in the Church at 3-30 p.m., at which the Moderator of the Non-Subscribing Church of Ireland (the Right Rev. J. Glynne Davies) will be the preacher. It is hoped that many of the Churches in Down and Antrim will be represented at this service; a hearty invitation is extended to members of all the Churches and any other visitors who care to join in celebrating this auspicious event. After the service light refreshments will be provided for visitors from a distance.

A congregational social evening will be held on Friday, November 1st, at 8 o'clock.

The half-yearly Communion service will be held immediately after the morning service on November 3rd.

**Moneyrea.**—The harvest thanksgiving services were held on Sunday, October 6th, at 12 noon and 5-30 p.m. The Church was tastefully decorated for the occasion with flowers, fruit, grain and vegetables by the ladies of the congregation. The services were conducted by the Rev. W. H. Townley Tilson, M.A., Greyabbey, whose eloquent sermons were highly appreciated by all present. The special singer was Mrs. Hamill, of Belfast, whose appropriate solos charmed her hearers and added to the beauty and impressiveness of the services. The services were very well attended by our own members and friends from neighbouring Churches, and the singing of the well-known harvest hymns was inspiring.

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**First Church, Belfast.** — The harvest thanksgiving and Sunday School Anniversary services were held on Sunday, October 13th. The Church had been tastefully decorated for the occasion. The morning and evening services witnessed large congregations, but the afternoon (scholars') service was but sparsely attended. The Church choir rendered selections from Hadyn's "The Seasons" in the morning, and from Mendelssohn's "Elijah" in the evening. All three services were conducted by the resident minister, the Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc., who spoke in the morning on "Four Soils"; in the afternoon on "Creators—not Destroyers"; and in the evening on "Not by Bread Alone." At the close of the day's services gifts of flowers and fruit were taken out (by members of the Junior Women's League) to aged and sick members. There was a general feeling that the day had passed happily and profitably for all concerned.

The Sunday School organised a Scholars' Party, in lieu of the usual summer excursion, which took place in the Central Hall on Saturday, September 21st. Scholars, along with parents and friends, attended, and the time was spent in games and competitions. Tea was served mid-way during the proceedings.

The Discussion Circle has held two further meetings. On September 29th a debate took place on "That Man is Master of his Fate"—a motion that was

carried by a large majority. On October 6th Mr. J. Nelson Browne paid us a further visit and spoke on "Some Ulster Writers of to-day" — a lecture that held all entranced to the very end. It was the Circle also which organised and provided the "Opposition" at the "Model Parliament," which was held at York Street on Wednesday, October 9th, as a part of that Church's Centenary celebrations. Although the Opposition were heavily out-voted, the evening proved not only enjoyable, but instructive as to the way in which our legislative bodies do function, and as to the ritual and order which they traditionally observe.

A Military Whist Drive, organised jointly by the Women's League and the Junior Women's League on Wednesday, October 16th, was attended by eighty players. The proceeds are for the Comforts Fund administered jointly by these two bodies. A very pleasant evening served to provide further funds for a most deserving object.

Our various organisations are now in full swing with their winter programme. The Women's League, Junior Women's League, and Dramatic Society meet weekly, and the Discussion Circle fortnightly. Nor must the Church choir be overlooked: it has met loyally, week by week, in spite of black-out and adverse conditions of various kinds. By its enthusiasm and faithfulness it consistently enriches our common worship.

Once again our remembrances and affectionate regard are extended to all absent members and friends. May fortune be kind to them. We look forward eagerly to a time of happy reunion.

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**Young People's League.** — The first monthly meeting of the 1940-41 Session of the Young People's League was held in Mountpottinger Sunday Schoolroom, on Monday, 23rd September, 1940, when about forty members re-dedicated themselves to the ideals of the League.

Mr. A. Corbett, in the chair, stated the aims of the League. He asked did the members still adhere to these principles, whereupon everyone answered "We do."

It was proposed by Miss V. Chambers and seconded by Mr. S. Wood, "That the present President and Vice-Presidents all be re-elected for a further session." The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Corbett then delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture entitled "The deeper causes of the war and its issues." Several members took part in an animated discussion afterwards.

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**Our "Model Parliament."** — It is worthy of note that a "Model Parliament" is being developed, and developed very well, within our Church associations. The first venture was held in the Central Hall, Rosemary Street, in April. The second took place in the York Street Church Hall a week or two since. The Church Hall had been especially arranged for the occasion. The "Government" was constituted by members of the York Street Church, and among the "Cabinet" were: Mr. W. J. Donaldson, Mr. J. S. Lawther, Mr. N. Woolley, Mr. C. Haig, Mr. W. Christie and Mr. W. J. Smith. The "Opposition" was composed of members of the First Church, and included the following: Mr. J. A. Laird, the Rev. R. W. Wilde, Mr. Stanley Wood, and Mr. J. Blair. Chairman of Committee: Mr. C. J. McKisack; Clerk of the House: Mr. T. A. Logan, and the Speaker: Rev. Dr. A. L. Agnew. Speaker and Clerk were robed and wigged in traditional fashion. The "Bill" was one to lower the age limit for the receipt of Old Age Pensions, and to increase their amount. When the "Tellers" announced the result a majority of two to one in favour of the Bill was declared. Both hall and gallery was crowded with spectators, and the evening was enlivened by much humour (and not a little baiting). This "Model Parliament" has proved a means of educating our more youthful Church members in the art of public speaking and debate, and has been informative to young and old alike. It is hoped to hold further "Sessions" from time to time.

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It is an old custom in Spain to say to the departing traveller, "Go with God," and for him to reply "Remain with God." The English way is "Good-bye," which is, "God be with you."

## COMFORTS FOR THE TROOPS.

Dear Editor—At the end of a year of war, the following names are on the Fellowship Roll.

COMBER—Capt. W. Andrews, 2nd Lieut. T. Andrews, 2nd Lieut. F. Andrews, Pte. R. Watson, Fus. R. Watson, Pnr. J. Marshall, Gnr. D. McQuade, Fus. W. McQuade, A.C. R. Dempster, A.C.1 I. Davies, Ord.Sea. G. G. Davies, Engineer J. Munn, H. McKnight, D. McMillen, A.B., A.C.1 T. Wilson, A.C.2 C. Dempster, Rfmn. A. Burgess, Rfmn. R. Robinson.

LARNE— Pte. W. Montgomery, L.A.C. T. Holmes, A.C 2 Mervyn Bell, Sgt. Craig, A. Craig, Gnr. Aicken, Res. Johnston Nelson, Rfmn. John Clements, Pte. D. Smith, Gnr. John Cooke, Gnr. Fred Magill, G. Cooke, J. Cooke, Corpl. Aicken, J. McFetridge, L.A.C. D. Nelson, L.A.C. A. Loughridge, L/Bdr. McGucken, L.A.C. Cooke, L/Cpl. R. H. Craig, Sea. Wm. J. Humphrey, Dvr. F. McIlhenny, Dvr. D. Rea, Pte. T. Dobbin, Pte. W. Dorsley, Rfmn. D. Cooke, A.C. W. Crawford.

GREYABBEY—A.C.2 Patton.

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To all of them, according to their needs as directed by the country to which they have been sent have they been written to—parcels dispatched, or to those in India money was sent in lieu of parcels. Last week, on the same morning, I had a letter of thanks from England and a cablegram from Aden,—both communications came from recipients who had been in India when I wrote to them. I am sending out Winter parcels now, and as the work is so good, it would be a terrible pity for the parcels to go astray, through wrong addresses. Would the relatives of the men please send me a card with the latest address on. There are at present 82 names on the roll. I have to thank the following for woollens received. First Church D. L., Killinchy W. L., Mrs Adams (Killinchy), and a member of York St. for two scarves, Mrs. Dick (Ballymoney,) and Misses Montgomery (All Souls). These were all splendid contributions. May I ask particularly now for gloves, helmets and long stockings.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Chief Justice and Mrs. Andrews £1 1s 0d, (2nd contribution). The General Assembly have issued to the men of the forces a splendid little breast-pocket sized manual, of prayers and hymns. I have forwarded the names of the Ulster men, so that they will receive them. They are worth while and civilians can buy them for sixpence each.

I would like to send Christmas cards and greetings to the men but, as this is by way of an extra, I wonder if there is anyone in any of our congregations who would like to give 7 dozen of Christmas cards, or suitable Christmas greetings.

During the year over 1,000 woollen articles have been sent to our men. Sometimes when some of the men have mentioned pals, or men they knew, who had no one to send them anything and were in need, I have put in extra articles for them in the name of our Unitarian Fellowship. Warm letters and messages of thanks have been received.

Our Comber school-room has been open for the past ten weeks as a Rest-room and for quiet recreation for H. M. Forces. Many friends have contributed chairs, couch, carpet, books and games, and money for a stove for heating purposes. Lace curtains are hung over the black-outs and an effort has been made to make the room as lovely as possible. One gentleman has left flowers each Saturday night. The Commanding Officer of one Regiment wrote to express his and the men's thanks for the use of the room. The room is open on Sunday from 2 p.m. We have welcomed one fellow-Unitarian from Ashton-under-Lyne. Magazines for the room would be welcomed.—Yours sincerely,

EDITH DAVIES, Hon. Fellowship Sec.

Owing to pressure, several items have had to be held over to next issue.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor, "Non-Subscribing Presbyterian."

Dear Sir—I am indebted to Mr. McCafferty drawing attention to my mistake in naming Patrick Adair as signing Covenant at Holywood, in 1644. My article had been awaiting publication for some time and I cannot at the moment account for mistake made. Patrick Adair was William's son. As to date of formation of First Congregation in Belfast, I am unable to answer. Rev. Alex. Gordon, in his "Historic Memorials," states that after formation of First Presbytery at Carrickfergus 10th June, 1642, an eldership was erected in Belfast. Reid, who relied on "Adair's narrative" for his statements writes, "The First Presbytery appointed Mr. Baird to preach every third Sabbath in Belfast, there being a third part of a regiment under his charge quartered there." This would indicate that there were laymen who desired Presbyterian services. Previously he states, "At this time there being one Mr. Black, a preacher in Belfast, who intended to give the sacrament after the way of the common prayer, the Presbytery, informed of it, sent to Colonel Chichester, afterwards Earl of Donegal, desiring forbearance of that way, in order to prevent scandal and inconvenience among the people. The said Colonel Chichester interfered with him to forbear." This would show there were a number of Presbyterians and Dissenters.

A petition was presented on Friday, Aug. 4th, 1643, to the Assembly, by Robert Adair, of Kinhilt, and William Mackenna, of Belfast, a merchant, representing the Presbyterians in Ulster. This petition expressed gratitude for the Assembly's former attention to their wants, and asked that a competent number of ministers "be loosed," to settle among them. I think one can infer from that, that there was a congregation *then* in Belfast, if not in 1642, MacKenna representing it. Yours truly,

H. J. F. Orr.

Rev. and dear sir,—If any reader who has old numbers of the Magazine can let me have a copy of the issue for May, 1913, I shall be glad to send a donation to any charity in which he or she is interested. I am short this one number for binding purposes.

Yours faithfully,
C. J. McKisack.

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